

Minutes of the February 24, 2012 Regular Council Meeting

Call to Order and Flag Salute at 3:35 pm by Mayor Serio.

Council in Attendance: Serio, Bunting, Langan, Weistling, Carmean, Tingle and Smallwood

Absent: None

President's Report

- Mayor Serio advised that The Town is in the final stages of hiring a new Town Manager who may be in place by March 1, 2012
- Regarding the Cannon Street Park, Mayor Serio advised that the property has been inspected by a landscape professional and recommendations received. The kayak launch and basketball court will be installed first. The Parks and Recreation *ad hoc* Committee will meet to discuss other items for the park including naming the park.
- Mayor Serio noted that The Town will host an Open House at the new Public Safety Building sometime in May 2012.

Topics for Discussion and Possible Action - None

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to Approve the Minutes of January 27, 2011 Meeting - Council Member Weistling

Second - Council Member Bunting

DISCUSSION - None

Vote: All in favor to accept the minutes (6-0-1) Council Member Tingle abstained

Minutes approved

Treasurer's Report:

Council Member Bunting advised that the Town is under budget at this time. The WSFS Savings Account has been closed and funds used against The Town's Line of Credit. Interim Town Manager Wontorek has been working with staff members on preliminary budget figures. The Budget Committee will meet sometime in March, 2012. The Solar Panel report is not up-to-date due because some information was not available at the time of publication.

DISCUSSION - None

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report – Council Member Carmean

Second – Council Member Langan

Vote: All in favor to accept the Treasurer's report (7-0)

Treasurer's Report accepted.

Town Manager Report:

Mayor Serio reported in Mr. Wontorek's absence:

- A grant request has been sent to help pay for Mobi Mats
- The staff is working with Mr. Wontorek on preliminary budget figures
- The kayak launch concept and plans are still being formulated. The Town will contact DNREC for permission to build.

Department Reports:

- Building Official – Patricia Schuchman advised that her report is included in the meeting packet.
 - In addition to 3 permits for demolition, Mrs. Schuchman reported that there should be 3 permits for construction soon. Many smaller projects are also starting.
 - This month she has issued 11 Resident Merchant, 18 Rental and 36 Outside Contractor licenses.
- Public Works - Report included in meeting packet.
- Beach Patrol – Mayor Serio reported that she has received the contract from DNREC for Beach Patrol coverage for this year but she has not had time to review it.

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- Fenwick Island Police Department – Chief Boyden reported that his department received a donation of \$50 from property owner Robert Lindsay (1612 Coastal Hwy) with thanks for the FIPD efforts in maintaining the Emergency Management Contacts. The Town has formally thanked Mr. Lindsay.
 - Council Member Langan noted that the number of complaints seems to have doubled this year. Chief Boyden advised that they are mostly minor complaints of found property and noise complaints. A majority were in response to assisting the State Police outside the Town limits.

Committee Reports:

- Beach Committee –No report
 - John Belian (1 W Houston St) advised that DNREC will have its annual Dune Grass Planting on March 24, 2012 and encouraged citizens to sign up to assist. They will not plant in Fenwick Island this year.
 - Council Member Carmean noted that some dune fencing is damaged and/or fallen and asked if something can be done to repair it. Council Member Weistling advised that he believes The Town should start early this year to settle the dune fence issue.
- Environmental Committee – Buzz Henifin reported that the Committee still is seeking a chairperson. A discussion followed regarding algae blooms, recent tides, sediment wash at Seal Island and the variety of water fowl in the area this year.
- Public Safety Building – Council Member Langan estimates that the project is 90-95% complete. It should be complete mid- March 2012 when fencing, parking, ramps and inside work is done.
 - Joyce Chaconas (5 W Cannon St) asked about parking at the new building; Council Member Langan advised that there will be head-in parking on the Cannon Street side of the building for Police vehicles.

Planning Commission: No report; next meeting Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at 2:30 PM

Charter & Ordinance – Council Member Weistling

Council Member Weistling advised that the committee is reviewing a Park Zone to augment the Residential and Commercial Zones already in use. The Town Solicitor suggested that the zone include public and private parks and thus will need to consider setbacks and structures. Discussions continue.

Old Business – none

New Business – No Action to be Taken - None

Public Participation:

- Lynn Andrews (1205 Schulz Rd) – suggested that Council name the new park after Mary Pat Kyle. Mrs. Andrews advised that FISH will hold its annual dinner on April 14, 2012 at 5:30 PM and suggested that members of Council attend to meet people who don't normally attend Council meetings.
- Mike Quinn (5 W Houston St) – asked if DNREC is leaving old dune fencing in place. Council Member Bunting noted that DNREC has advised him that they do not intend to replace old fencing.
- Joyce Chaconas (5 W Cannon St) – asked if it is possible to leave the benches year-round on the dune crossovers. Council Member Smallwood believes that the State requires removal for the winter. Council Member Bunting noted that The Town can request they stay longer.

Upcoming Events and Meetings:

Mayor Serio announced all upcoming meetings and events.

Motion to adjourn – Council Member Weistling

Second – Council Member Bunting

Meeting adjourned at 4:03 PM.

Agnes DiPietrantonio, Town Clerk
For Diane Tingle, Secretary